

NASA TECH BRIEF



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Sampling and Handling of Desert Soils

A good report on sampling and handling of desert soils is available. It will serve as a concise reference source for anyone interested in agronomy, microbiology, and soil sciences. Illustrations in the report include desert areas, soil sampling sites, soil measurement and meteorological instruments, and sampling techniques. A glossary is included that will make it useful for people with little background in soil sampling.

Sections in this report include: Selection, Characterization, and Photography of Area, Site, and Soil; Sterilization of Sampling Equipment and Containers; and Soil Sample Collection, Transport, Shipment, Handling, Processing, Storage, and Dispersal. There are Appendices which contain the sequence of steps to be followed in collecting soil samples in desert areas; sample information sheet and photographs; and a suggested minimum equipment list for soil sample collecting.

Recommended procedures are given. Information is presented for the sequential selection, characterization, and sampling of a desert soil site. Aseptic technique is emphasized for the collection and handling of soil samples for microbiological studies.

Note:

Documentation is available from:
Clearinghouse for Federal Scientific
and Technical Information
Springfield, Virginia 22151
Price \$3.00
Reference: TSP69-10304

Patent status:

No patent action is contemplated by NASA.
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Category 04